

**PATENT  
APPLICATION 10/577,823  
ATTORNEY DOCKET 1041-006**

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Original) A system, comprising:
  - a database storing a plurality of objects; and
  - a computer-based document management module adapted to:
    - create a source document comprising the plurality of objects; and
    - automatically and individually control a content, a plurality of content attributes, a usage permission, and a distribution permission of each of a plurality of objects in each of multiple documents derived from the source document.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said document management module is further adapted to define a content, a plurality of content attributes, a usage permission, and a distribution permission of each of the plurality of objects of the source document.
3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said document management module is further adapted to prevent modification of a content, a plurality of content attributes, a usage permission, and a distribution permission of each of the plurality of objects of the source document.
4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said document management module is further adapted to publish the source document.
5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said document management module is further adapted to generate a derived document from the source document.
6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said document management module is further adapted to derive each of the multiple documents from the source document.
7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said document management module is further adapted to propagate the a content, plurality of content attributes, usage

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permission, and distribution permission of the source document to each of the multiple documents derived from the source document.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said document management module is further adapted to prevent modification of ~~the a~~ content, plurality of content attributes, usage permission, and distribution permission in each of the multiple documents derived from the source document.
9. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said document management module is further adapted to determine an identity of the source document from each of the multiple documents derived from the source document.
10. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said document management module is further adapted to perform a bi-directional comparison of the source document and a derivative document derived from the source document.
11. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said document management module is further adapted to perform a bi-directional comparison of a first derivative document derived from the source document and a second derivative document derived from the source document.
12. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said document management module is further adapted to language-independently search the database.
13. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said document management module is further adapted to generate an auxiliary document from the source document, the auxiliary document reflecting at least a portion of a structure of the source document, at least a portion of a content of the auxiliary document differing from a content of the source document.

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14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of objects of the multiple documents is stored only once in said database.
15. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of content attributes comprises content formatting information.
16. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of content attributes comprises content type information.
17. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of content attributes comprises document structure information.
18. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of content attributes comprises content creator information.
19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of objects of the source document comprises a text object.
20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of objects of the source document comprises a graphical object.
21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of objects of the source document comprises an audio object.
22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of objects of the source document comprises a video object.
23. (Original) A method, comprising a plurality of activities comprising:  
via a computer-based document management module:

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creating a source document comprising a plurality of objects, each of said plurality of objects stored in a database; and

automatically and individually controlling a content, a plurality of content attributes, a usage permission, and a distribution permission of each of a plurality of objects in each of multiple documents derived from the source document.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising defining a content, a plurality of content attributes, a usage permission, and a distribution permission of each of the plurality of objects of the source document.
25. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising preventing modification of a content, a plurality of content attributes, a usage permission, and a distribution permission of each of the plurality of objects of the source document.
26. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising publishing the source document.
27. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising generating a derived document from the source document.
28. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising deriving each of the multiple documents from the source document.
29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, further comprising propagating ~~the a~~ content, plurality of content attributes, usage permission, and distribution permission of the source document to each of the multiple documents derived from the source document.
30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, further comprising preventing modification of ~~the a~~ content, plurality of content attributes, usage permission, and

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distribution permission in each of the multiple documents derived from the source document.

31. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising determining an identity of the source document from each of the multiple documents derived from the source document.
32. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising performing a bi-directional comparison of the source document and a derivative document derived from the source document.
33. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising searching across the source document and each document derived from the source document.
34. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising generating an auxiliary document from the source document, the auxiliary document reflecting at least a portion of a structure of the source document, at least a portion of a content of the auxiliary document differing from a content of the source document.
35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, wherein each of the plurality of objects of the multiple documents is stored only once in said database.
36. (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium storing instructions, executable by an information device, for activities comprising:
  - creating a source document comprising a plurality of objects, each of said plurality of objects stored in a database; and
  - automatically and individually controlling a content, a plurality of content attributes, a usage permission, and a distribution permission of each of a plurality of objects in each of multiple documents derived from the source document.

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37. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the computer-based document management module is adapted to allow a user to search for a user-selected topic in each of the multiple documents and in the source document regardless of differences in language between the source document and at least one of the multiple documents.
38. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the computer-based document management module is adapted to allow enforcement of instructions provided by an owner of the source document regarding legal use of the source document, the computer-based document management module adapted to allow security properties to be modified to a setting in each of the multiple documents that is more restrictive than the instructions provided by the owner.
39. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the computer-based document management module is adapted to provide users of the source document with contact information of the owner for each of the plurality of objects of the source documents.
40. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the computer-based document management module is adapted to, responsive to publication of the source document, lock all of the plurality of objects of the source document, the computer-based document management module adapted to allow an owner of the source document to edit objects in each of the multiple documents after the source document has been published.
41. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the computer-based document management module is adapted to, responsive to a selection by an owner of the source document, remove all rights of the owner regarding the source document but retain all original credits at an edition or object level of the source document.
42. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the computer-based document management module is adapted to, responsive to a selection by an owner of the source document, enforce a right of the owner to require a user to include and retain contents of the source

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document in each of the multiple documents, the computer-based document management module adapted to allow the user to append an additional object into each of the multiple documents.

43. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the computer-based document management module is adapted to, responsive to initiation of a search by a user, perform a database query, and responsive to a determination that the database query has returned data, the computer-based document management module adapted to perform an Edition query that uses a Shell relationship to identify all other Editions in a Shell of Editions returned in the database query.
44. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the computer-based document management module is adapted to, responsive to entry of one or more search terms by a user, perform a database query, the query adapted to return to the user a search result in a different language from that of the one or more search terms.
45. (New) The system of claim 1, wherein the database contains a table that links a content identifier to an identifier of a container object of the source document.